We claim:

1. A device for adjusting a register element in a printing machine, comprising:

a guide;

an upper clamping rail and a register element fixed to said upper clamping rail, wherein said upper clamping rail is movably disposed in said guide and fixable in position for adjusting said register element; and

a clamping element co-operating with said upper clamping rail.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein said guide is a sliding guide, and the position of said upper clamping rail is adjustable with an adjusting device in a sliding direction corresponding to an adjustment direction of said register element.

3. The device according to claim 1, which comprises an adjusting device including at least one mechanical adjusting element for generating an adjusting force acting on said upper clamping rail.

4. The device according to claim 1, which comprises an adjusting device having at least one electrical adjusting

element for generating an adjusting force acting on said upper clamping rail.

5. The device according to claim 1, which comprises clamping means for fixing the position of said upper clamping rail.

6. The device according to claim 1, which comprises tensioning means for fixing the position of said upper clamping rail.

7. The device according to claim 1, which comprises a central control unit operatively connected to said upper clamping rail.

8. The device according to claim 1, wherein said upper clamping rail is formed of a plurality of part segments movable disposed relative to one another and each containing at least one register element.

9. A method of adjusting at least one register element in a printing machine, which comprises providing an upper clamping rail having fixed thereto the register element, and moving the upper clamping rail in a guide and fixing the clamping rail in position in order to adjust the register element.

10. The method according to claim 9, which comprises adjusting a position of the upper clamping rail in a sliding guide by way of an adjusting device in an adjustment direction of the register element.

11. The method according to claim 9, which comprises mechanically generating an adjusting force acting on the upper clamping rail.

12. The method according to claim 9, which comprises electrically generating an adjusting force acting on the upper clamping rail.

13. The method according to claim 9, which comprises fixing the upper clamping rail in position at a point and, at defined adjustment regions, wherein the register element is guided in an adjustment direction, elastically deforming and firmly clamping the upper clamping rail in a stable position.

14. The method according to claim 9, which comprises moving and positionally fixing the upper clamping rail in the guide in an automated manner.

15. The method according to claim 9, which comprises providing the upper clamping rail as a plurality of part segments each having at least one register element, and moving

and fixing in position the part segments independently of one another.